INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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PCT/JP2004/015604 A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER Int.Cl⁷ G11B7/0065, 7/135, 7/28, G03H1/04 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) Int.Cl⁷ G11B7/0065, 7/135, 7/28, G03H1/04 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1922-1996 Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1994-2005 Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971-2005 Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho 1996-2005 Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category* Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. JP 11-133845 A (Sony Corp.), A 1-29 21 May, 1999 (21.05.99), Full text; Figs. 1 to 24 (Family: none) JP 2002-244537 A (Sony Corp.), A 1 - 2930 August, 2002 (30.08.02), Full text; Figs. 1 to 14 (Family: none) JP 2004-93910 A (Sony Corp.), P,A 1 - 2925 March, 2004 (25.03.04), Full text; Figs. 1 to 7 (Family: none) Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex. Special categories of cited documents: later document published after the international filing date or priority document defining the general state of the art which is not considered date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand to be of particular relevance the principle or theory underlying the invention earlier application or patent but published on or after the international document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be filing date considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is step when the document is taken alone cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be special reason (as specified) considered to involve an inventive step when the document is document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "O" combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 02 February, 2005 (02.02.05) 15 February, 2005 (15.02.05) Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Authorized officer Japanese Patent Office

Telephone No.